

# TWI

What man talk'd with you yesternight  
Out at your window betwixt twelve and one. *Shakespeare.*  
On his left hand twelve reverend owls did fly:  
So Romulus, 'tis sung, by Tyber's brook,  
Preface of sway from twice six vultures, took. *Dryden.*  
TWELFEMONTH. *n. f.* [twelve and month.] A year, as con-  
sisting of twelve months.  
I shall laugh at this a twelvemonth hence. *Shakespeare.*  
This year or twelvemonth, by reason that the moon's months  
are shorter than those of the sun, is about eleven days shorter  
than the sun's year. *Held.*  
Taking the shoots of the past spring and pegging them  
down in very rich earth perfectly consumed, watering them  
upon all occasions, by this time twelvemonth they will be  
ready to remove. *Evelyn.*  
In the space of about a twelvemonth I have run out of a  
whole thousand pound upon her. *Addison.*  
Not twice a twelvemonth you appear in print. *Pope.*  
TWELVEPENNY. *n. f.* [twelve and pence.] A shilling.  
TWELVEPENNY. *adj.* [twelve and penny.] Sold for a shilling.  
I would wish no other revenge, from this rhyming judge  
of the twelvemonth gallery. *Dryden.*  
TWELVESCORE. *n. f.* [twelve and score.] Twelve times twenty;  
two hundred and forty.  
Twelvemore virago's of the Spartan race. *Dryden.*  
TWENTIETH. *adj.* [xviii and 10, Saxon.] Twice tenth; or  
ordinal of twenty.  
This year,  
The twentieth from the firing of the capitol,  
As fatal too to Rome, by all predictions. *Ben. Johnson.*  
The quantity of the fifteenth should be turned to a twentieth.  
Bacon.  
Why was not I the twentieth by descent  
From a long relive race of droning kings? *Dryden.*  
This crown now must be raised, and coined one twentieth  
lighter; which is nothing but changing the denomination,  
calling that a crown now, which yesterday was but a part,  
viz. nineteen twentieths.  
TWENTY. *adj.* [xx, Saxon.]  
1. Twice ten.  
At least nineteen in twenty of these perplexing words might  
be changed into easy ones. *Swift.*  
2. A proverbial or indefinite number.  
Maximilian, upon twenty respects, could not have been the  
man. *Bacon's Henry VII.*  
TWENTY. *n. f.* [xxy for two and bill, bipennis, Lat.] A halbert.  
Ainf.  
TWICE. *adv.* [xix and 2, Saxon; twice, Dutch.]  
1. Two times.  
Upon his crest he struck him so,  
That twice he reeled, ready twice to fall. *Fairy 2.*  
He twice essay'd to cast his son in gold;  
Twice from his hands he drop'd the forming mould. *Dryd.*  
2. Doubly.  
A little sun you mourn, while most have met  
With twice the loss, and by as vile a cheat. *Dryden.*  
3. It is often used in composition.  
Life is tedious as a twice told tale.  
Vexing the dull ear of a drowsy man. *Shakespeare.*  
Twice-born Bacchus burst the thund'ring's thigh,  
And all the gods that wander thro' the sky. *Crash.*  
Extol the strength of a twice-conquer'd race. *Dryden.*  
And what so tedious as a twice-told tale. *Pope.*  
To TWIDDLE. *v. a.* [This is commonly written twiddle.] To  
touch lightly. A low word.  
With my fingers upon the flupe, I pressed close upon it,  
and twiddled it in, first one side, then the other. *Wifeman.*  
TWIG. *n. f.* [xix and 2, Saxon; twig, Dutch.] A small  
shoot of a branch; a switch tough and long.  
The Britons had boats made of willow twigs, covered on  
the outside with hides; and so had the Venetians. *Raleigh.*  
They chose the fig-tree, such as spread her arms,  
Branching so broad and long; that in the ground  
The bended twigs take root. *Milton.*  
Can't thou with a weak angle strike the whale,  
His huge jaw with a twig or bulrush bore? *Samph.*  
If they cut the twigs at evenings, a plentiful and pleasant  
juice comes out. *Mora.*  
The tender twig shoots upwards to the skies. *Dryden.*  
From parent bough  
A cyon meety fever: after force  
A way into the crabsticks close wrought grain  
By wedges, and within the living wound  
Inclose the foster twigs, around which spread  
The binding clay. *Philips.*  
TWIGG. *adj.* [from twig.] Made of twigs.  
I'll beat the knave with a twiggen bottle. *Shakespeare.*  
The fides and rim sewed together after the manner of  
twiggen work. *Grew.*  
TWIGGY. *adj.* [from twig.] Full of twigs.  
TWILIGHT. *n. f.* [twelicht, Dutch; xpeonleohz, Saxon.]

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The dubious or faint light before sunrise, and after sunset;  
obscure light; uncertain view.  
Her twilight were more clear than our mid-day. *Dante.*  
Suspensions amongst thoughts, are like bats amongst birds,  
they ever fly by twilight. Certainly they are to be well  
guarded. *Bacon.*  
A faint weak love of virtue, and of good,  
Reflects from her on them, which underfoot  
Her worth; and though she have shut in all day  
The twilight of her memory doth stay. *Dante.*  
He that saw hell in's melancholy dream,  
And in the twilight of his phancy's theme  
Scar'd from his fins, repented in a fright,  
Had he view'd Scotland, had turn'd proselyte. *Cleveland.*  
Ambrosial night, with clouds exhal'd  
From that high mount of God, whence light and shade  
Spring both, the face of brightest heav'n had chang'd  
To grateful twilight. *Milton's Par. Lost.*  
When the sun was down  
They just arriv'd by twilight at a town. *Dryden.*  
In the greatest part of our concernment he has afforded us  
only the twilight of probability, suitable to our state of medi-  
ocrity. *Locke.*  
TWILIGHT. *adj.*  
1. Not clearly or brightly illuminated; obscure; deeply shaded.  
When the sun begins to fling  
His flaming beams, me goddess bring  
To arch'd walks of twilight groves.  
O'er the twilight groves, and dusky caves,  
Long-sounding firs, and intermingled graves,  
Black melancholy fits, and round her throws  
A death-like silence, and a dead repose. *Pope.*  
2. Seen by twilight.  
On old Lycæus or Cyllene hoar  
Trip no more in twilight ranks. *Milton.*  
TWIN. *n. f.* [xpin, Saxon; twelingen, Dutch.]  
1. Children born at a birth. It is therefore seldom used in the  
singular; though sometimes it is used for one of twins.  
In this mystery of ill opinions, here's the twin brother of  
thy letter; but let thine inherit first, for mine never shall. *Sh.*  
In following  
He was most princely: ever witness for him  
Those twins of learning Ipswich and Oxford. *Shakespeare.*  
If that moment of the time of birth be of such moment,  
whence proceedeth the great difference of the constitutions of  
twins, which, tho' together born, have strange and contrary  
fortunes. *Drummond.*  
The divided dam  
Runs to the fountains of her hungry lamb;  
But when the twin cries halves, she quits the first. *Cleveland.*  
They came twins from the womb, and still they live  
As if they would go twins too to the grave. *Ottway.*  
Fair Leda's twins, in time to stars decreed,  
One fought on foot, one curb'd the fiery steed. *Dryden.*  
Had there been the same likeness in all men, as sometimes  
in twins, it would have given occasion to confusion. *Grew.*  
2. Gemini, the sign of the zodiac.  
This, when the sun retires,  
First shines, and spreads black night with feeble fires,  
Then parts the twins and crab. *Crash.*  
When now no more, th' alternate twins are fir'd.  
Short is the doubtful empire of the night. *Thomson.*  
To TWIN. *v. n.* [from the noun.]  
1. To be born at the same birth.  
He that is approv'd in this offence,  
Though he had twins'd with me both at a birth,  
Shall lose me. *Shakespeare. Othello.*  
2. To bring two at once.  
Ewes yearly by twinning rich masters do make. *Tusser.*  
3. To be paired; to be suited.  
Hath nature given them eyes,  
Which can distinguish 'twixt  
The fiery orbs above and the twinned stones  
Upon the humbl'd beach. *Shakespeare.*  
O how intractable! his equity  
Twins with his power. *Samph.*  
TWINNING. *adj.* [twain and born.] Born at the same birth.  
Our fins lay on the King; he must bear all.  
O hard condition and twinborn with greatness. *Shakespeare.*  
To TWINE. *v. a.* [xpinan, Saxon; twynen, Dutch.]  
1. To twist or complicate so as to unite, or form one body or  
substance out of two or more.  
Thou shalt make an hanging of blue, and fine twined linen,  
wrought with needlework. *Exod. xxvi. 36.*  
2. I know not whether this is from twine or twin.  
By original lapse, true liberty  
Is lofty, which always with right reason dwells,  
Twin'd, and from her hath no dividual being. *Milton.*  
3. To unite itself.  
Lumps of sugar lose themselves, and twine  
Their subtle essence with the soul of wine. *Crashaw.*  
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To TWINE. *v. n.*  
1. To convolve itself; to wrap itself closely about.  
Let wreaths of triumph now my temples twine,  
The victor cry'd, the glorious prize is mine! *Pope.*  
2. To unite by interposition of parts.  
Friends now fast sworn, who twine in love  
Unseparable, shall, within this hour,  
On a diffusion of a doir, break out  
To bitterest enmity. *Shakespeare.*  
3. To wind; to make flexures.  
As rivers, though they bend and twine,  
Still to the sea their course incline.  
Or as philosophers who find  
Some fav'rite system to their mind,  
In ev'ry point to make it fit,  
Will force all nature to submit.  
The deer rushes thro' the twining brake. *Swift.*  
The deer rushes thro' the twining brake. *Thomson.*  
1. A twisted thread.  
Not any damsel, which her vaunteth most  
In skillful knitting of soft filken twine.  
A pointed sword hung threatening o'er his head,  
Sufficed but by a slender twine of thread. *Dryden.*  
2. Twist; convolution.  
Nor all the gods beside  
Longer dare abide  
Not Typhon huge ending in snaky twine.  
Welcome joy and feast,  
Braid your locks with rosy twine,  
Dropping odours, dropping wine.  
3. Embrace; act of convolving itself round.  
Everlasting hate  
The vine to ivy bears, but with am'rous twine  
Claps the tall elm. *Philips.*  
To TWINE. *v. a.* [xpinen, German; twinge, Danish.]  
1. To torment with fudden and short pain.  
The great charg'd into the nostrils of the lion, and there  
twing'd him till he made him rear himself, and so maller'd  
him. *L'Estrange.*  
2. To pinch; to tweak.  
When a man is past his sense,  
There's no way to reduce him thence,  
But twinging him by th' ears and nose,  
Or laying on of heavy blows. *Hadibras.*  
TWINGE. *n. f.* [from the verb.]  
1. Short fudden sharp pain.  
The wickedness of this old villain startles me, and gives me  
a twinge for my own sin, though far short of his. *Dryd.*  
2. A tweak; a pinch.  
How can you fawn upon a master that gives you so many  
blows and twinges by the ears. *L'Estrange.*  
TWINK. *n. f.* [See TWINKLE.] The motion of an eye;  
a moment. Not in use.  
She hung about my neck, and kiss on kiss  
She tied to fast, protesting oath on oath,  
That in a twink she won me to her love. *Shakespeare.*  
To TWINKLE. *v. n.* [xpinclan, Saxon.]  
1. To sparkle; to flash irregularly; to shine with intermitted  
light; to shine faintly; to quiver.  
At first I did adore a twinkling star,  
But now I worship a celestial sun. *Shakespeare.*  
As plays the fun upon the glassy streams,  
Twinkling another counterfeited beam,  
So seems this gorgeous beauty. *Shakespeare.*  
Some their forked tails stretch forth on high,  
And tear the twinkling stars from trembling sky. *Painfax.*  
God comprises all the goods we value in the creatures, as  
the fun doth the light that twinkles in the stars. *Boyle.*  
The fear of love,  
That twinkles you to fair Almeyda's bed.  
Think you your new French proselytes are come  
To starve abroad, because they star'd at home,  
Your benefices twinkl'd from afar. *Dryden.*  
So weak your charms, that like a winter's night,  
Twinkling with stars, they freeze me while they light. *Dryd.*  
These stars do not twinkle when viewed through telescopes  
which have large apertures: for the rays of light which pass  
through divers parts of the aperture, tremble each of them  
tremors, fall at one and the same time upon different points  
in the bottom of the eye. *Newton.*  
2. To open and shut the eye by turns.  
The owl fell a moping and twinkling. *L'Estrange.*  
3. To play irregularly.  
His eyes will twinkle, and his tongue will roll,  
As tho' he beek'ned, and call'd back his soul. *Dante.*  
TWINKLE. } *n. f.* [from the verb.]  
TWINKLING. }  
1. A sparkling intermitted light; a motion of the eye.

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Suddenly, with twinkle of her eye,  
The daniel broke his misintended dart. *Spenser.*  
I come, I come; the least twinkle had brought me to thee. *Dryden's Don Sebastian.*  
Money can thy wants at will supply,  
Shields, steeds, and arms, and all things for thee meet,  
It can pourvey in twinkling of an eye. *Pope.*  
These false beauties of the stage are no more lasting than  
a rainbow; when the actor gilds them no longer with his  
reflection, they vanish in a twinkling. *Dryden.*  
The action, passion, and manners of so many persons in  
a picture, are to be discerned in the twinkling of an eye, if  
the sight could travel over so many different objects all at  
once. *Dryden.*  
TWINLING. *n. f.* [diminutive of twin.] A twin lamb; a  
lamb of two brought at a birth.  
Twinnings increase bring. *Tusser's Husb.*  
TWINNER. *n. f.* [from twin.] A breeder of twins.  
Ewes yearly by twinning rich masters do make,  
The lambs of such twinnings for breeders go take. *Tusser.*  
To TWIRL. *v. a.* [from twirl.] To turn round; to move by  
a quick rotation.  
Wool and raw silk by moisture incorporate with other  
threads; especially if there be a little wrenching, as appeareth  
by the twirling and twirling about of spindles. *Bacon.*  
Dextrous damels twirl the sprinkling mop. *Gay.*  
See ruddy maids,  
Some taught with dextrous hand to twirl the wheel. *Dodg.*  
TWIRL. *n. f.* [from the verb.]  
1. Rotation; circular motion.  
2. Twist; convolution.  
The twirl on this is different from that of the others; this  
being an heterostrophia; the twirl turning from the right-  
hand to the left. *Woodward on Fossils.*  
To TWIST. *v. a.* [xweppan, Saxon; twisten, Dutch.]  
1. To form by complication; to form by convolution.  
Do but despair,  
And if thou want't a cord, the smallest thread  
That ever spider twist'd from her womb,  
Will strangle thee. *Shakespeare.*  
To reprove discontent, the ancients feigned, that in hell  
flood a man twirling a rope of hay; and fill he twist'd on,  
suffering an ass to eat up all that was finished. *Taylor.*  
Would Clotho wash her hands in milk,  
And twist our thread with gold and silk;  
Would she in friendship, peace, and plenty,  
Spin out our years to four times twenty;  
And should we both in this condition,  
Have conquer'd love, and worse ambition,  
Else these two passions by the way,  
May chance to shew us scurvy play.  
The task were harder to secure my own  
Against the pow'r of those already known;  
For well you twist the secret chains that bind  
With gentle force the captivated mind. *Lyttleton.*  
2. To contort; to wriche.  
Either double it into a pyramidal, or twist it into a ser-  
pentine form. *Pope.*  
3. To wreath; to wind; to encircle by something round  
about.  
There are pillars of smoke twist'd about with wreaths of  
flame. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth.*  
4. To form; to weave.  
If thou dost love fair Hero, cherish it,  
And thou shalt have her: was't not to this end  
That thou began't to twist so fine a story? *Shakespeare.*  
5. To unite by intertexture of parts.  
All that know how prodigal  
Of thy great foul thou art, longing to twist  
Bays with that joy, which so early kist  
Thy youthful temples, with what horror we  
Think on the blind events of war. *Waller.*  
6. To unite; to intimate.  
When avarice twists itself, not only with the practice of  
men, but the doctrines of the church; when ecclesiasticks  
dispute for money, the mischief seems fatal. *Dryden of Piety.*  
To TWIST. *v. n.* To be contorted; to be convolved.  
In an ileus, commonly called the twisting of the guts, is a  
circumvolution or inflexion of one part of the gut within the  
other. *Arbuthnot on Aliments.*  
Deep in her breast he plung'd the shining sword:  
Th' Iusicians view the slain with vast surprize,  
Her twisting volumes, and her rolling eyes. *Pope.*  
TWIST. *n. f.* [from the verb.]  
1. Any thing made by convolution, or winding two bodies  
together.  
Minerva nurs'd him  
Within a twist of twining others laid. *Addison.*